



Editor: Steve Wright wrights1@eircom.net

newsteam@irts.ie **December 2016**



The Spirit of Christmas from OF9X

Greetings from the Land of Santa Claus, in the Far North at the Arctic Circle. The busy yuletide season is soon upon us, and Santa is preparing his sleigh for another world tour. The old man is very busy, but fortunately the elves are there to help him deliver the Christmas spirit to the world's children. With the help of multimedia and the Internet, a dozen or so elves will operate Santa Radio, OF9X, with their own identity. The certified reindeer driver and Laplander Pertti "Pete" Koivula, OH2BEE/OH9U, will give Santa a face and voice. The Santa activity's end will mark the beginning of Finland's Anniversary as a 100-year-old sovereign and independent nation. More information from OF9X QRZ.com page.

Wild Atlantic Way Activity 2017

The Wild Atlantic Way project, initiated by the Limerick Radio Club, is nearing completion. The nine QSL Cards, which feature an image from each of the WAW counties, are printed and will shortly be on their way to Dave, EI6AL, who has taken on the onerous task of QSL manager. Seven radio clubs: CARG Donegal, SRC Leitrim & Sligo, MREN Mayo, GREC Galway, LRC Clare & Limerick, KARG Kerry, and Cork CRC, will be co-ordinating their respective areas, during the period of activation, from 1st January to the 31st of December 2017. All EI Licensed operators are more than welcome to participate; just contact the co-ordinator for that WAW County requesting a date, time, band and mode. It is not necessary to be in a WAW county to participate. If you would like to use any of these calls but have no specific call sign or slot in mind just send your name and call sign and contact details by email to waw@irts.ie

South Dublin Radio Club



The South Dublin Radio Club Christmas Party will take place on Tuesday 13th of December. The venue will be the same as last year, *The Morgue*, Templeogue Village from 8pm until late. Members of other clubs and visitors are as usual very welcome to this social event. Limited free food will be available for paid-up members. Visitors can choose from the bar menu until 9pm. The club will then break for Christmas and return on January 3rd 2017.

Shannon Basin Radio Club



Shannon Basin Radio Club will be holding its AGM on Friday 13th Jan 2017 at 20:30 in Hannons Hotel, Roscommon Town. All members are requested to attend and of course anyone wishing to become a member is more than welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

FUNcube-1 3rd Birthday



Monday, the 21st of November 2016, marked the third birthday in space for the 985 gram spacecraft FUNcube-1 / AO73. FUNcube-1 was launched at 07:10 UTC on Monday the 21st of November 2013 and its first signals were received immediately after deployment over the Indian Ocean by amateurs in South Africa. Since then it has been operating continuously in either its education mode or, with the transponder active, in amateur mode when in eclipse and at weekends.

IRTS VHF Squares Table 2016

If any one wishes to submit their VHF, UHF, or SHF squares worked between the 1st of January to the 31st of December, please feel free to submit them to Steve, EI5DD, wrights1@eircom.net These will be entered into the table found on the IRTS website <http://www.irts.ie/cgi/st.cgi?vhf>

LRC System Fusion Digital Repeater

It is now 2 years since the Limerick Radio Club replaced the existing 2m FM Repeater with the Yaesu System Fusion, the DR-1X. The repeater is in Automatic Mode Selection – what goes in comes out. If the input is digital voice then the output is digital voice – likewise if the input is analogue voice the output will be analogue voice. The choice of the Fusion System gave the best option in continuing to support the FM analogue users while offering a path to digital modes. Currently there are three club members with FTM-100D rigs, two with FTM-400 and a FT-2DE. Four members have purchased the DV4mini dongle, which allows for connection to the C4FM Network from a C4FM rig. There is considerable interest in Limerick and Galway resulting in more operators on stream in the near future. More information from Simon Kenny, EI7ALB, email kenmare32@eircom.net

Donegal System Fusion Repeater

A new System Fusion digital repeater has recently become operational in Dunkineely, Donegal. The callsign of the Repeater is EI2JPG and it is operating in System Fusion (C4FM) and analogue modes. It transmits on 145.750 and receives on 145.150. Internet connectivity, using the wires-X system will be installed shortly which will enable world-wide connection to other repeaters and gateways. There is a YouTube video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V19ByRnjJMc> More information from Gerry Walshe, EI6HGB, the Repeater Keeper.

Galway VHF Group 2m Gateway

The Galway VHF Group planned to place a 2 metre Echolink gateway on air in the New Year, but in light of the activity on the Yaesu Fusion System in the West of Ireland, the decision has been taken to install an MMDVM access point which will cover 3 digital modes in Galway City and surrounding areas. Members of the group will be acquiring C4FM equipment over the next few months along with MMDVM access points for use in the home QTH.

Digital Ham Radio Ireland



Digital Ham Radio Ireland is a facebook site covering all aspects of the new Digital Modes enabling all to share their interests and to make announcements about emerging technology. This site covers interests throughout Ireland and shows no bias towards any one digital mode. This would probably be the best location to research before you make any decisions about purchasing new equipment. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/481183598723548/>

Members Advertisements

For Sale

Icom IC 756Pro2. Perfect working order. Comes with box and user/service manuals on cd.

€850 or nearest offer.

Contact Brian EI8IU 0861057325.

Contests – December 2016

[WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) : [IRTS Contests](#) : [RSGB HF Contests](#) : [UKEICC Contests](#)

Fri 2	22:00	42 hours	ARRL 160m CW	160m, work W/VE, log ARRL/RAC section
Sat 10	00:00	48 hours	ARRL 10m SSB/CW	10m, work everyone, send serial, log State from W/VE/XE
Sat 17	00:00	24 hours	RAC Winter SSB/CW	160-10m, work everyone, send srl, log province from VE
Sat 17	14:00	24 hours	Croatian CW	160-10m, work everyone, exchange serials
Sat 17	15:00	24 hours	Stew Perry Topband CW	160m, exchange four character grid (e.g. IO62)
Every	Wed	60 mins	CWops Mini Contests	160-10m, three separate CW contests

Reminder: [IRTS 80m Counties Contest](#) (SSB/CW) Sun 1 Jan 2017, 15:00 UTC

List compiled by Joe [EI7GY](#) (Times are UTC)